



Sponsor's Remarks
delivered by
Trevor Libert, CEO, iGovTT
at the Release of
the WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2015
September 30th 2015

SALUTATIONS

- The Honourable Camille Robinson-Regis, Minister of Planning and Development
- Professor Miguel Carillo, Executive Director, Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
- Dr. Balraj Kistow, Lecturer, Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
- Mr. Ian Chinapoo, Executive Director, The Unit Trust Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago
- Mr. Dave Ramkissoon, Chief Executive Officer, Electrical Industries Group
- Ms. Dawn Callender, Director, Finance and Risk Management, Powergen
- Members of the media
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning.

iGovTT is once again pleased to be a Sponsor of this year's launch of the national release of the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness

Report. We were also delighted to share in the April 2015 launch of the Global Information Technology Report where we discussed how prepared our economy was to apply the benefits of ICTs to promote economic growth and development.

Today marks our fourth time sponsoring this event with the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business. I should hope therefore that this sends a clear message that we at iGovTT support and will continue to encourage any efforts aimed at discussing the very important issues of technology, competitiveness and national development. It would be remiss of me if I did not congratulate and thank the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business and its organisers for providing the forum within which such matters can be discussed.

Information technology is now a fundamental enabling infrastructure of the new competitive regime. For any developing country pursuing global

competitiveness, ICT development is prescribed closely, if not, at the top of the list. The ICT sector has proven to be a strong driver of GDP growth in nations across the world. From developing countries such as the Philippines and India, to developed nations such as the United States of America and Ireland, ICT sector has contributed to the success of each of these nation's economies, the advancement of its people's skills and capabilities and positioning them among the most desirable places to do business efficiently, thereby attracting much needed international investment.

Trinidad & Tobago has already established itself as an efficient business location and key at this point is the transition to a technologically sophisticated, knowledge-based economy. With this transition, foreign investors will benefit from a more business-savvy environment, stronger local supply chain and a systemically stronger country with a clear roadmap to global competitiveness.

Given the space that iGovTT occupies, our interest predominantly lies in the state of our country's technological readiness. It is against this backdrop that we continue to forge ahead with plans for supporting Government ministries and agencies in their utilization of Information and Communication Technologies.

We at iGovTT are constantly examining how best the solutions we offer can ease Government's cost of doing business, raise the level of efficiency within the public sector and increase the confidence of nationals and those interested in doing business in and with Trinidad and Tobago.

We continue to demonstrate the value of a new and integrated model for the delivery of government information and services to the business and citizen public, through the management of our ttconnect service. ttconnect comprises five channels for government service delivery:

ttconnect Online, ttconnect Mobile, Self Service Kiosks, ttconnect Service Centres and our ttconnect Express, a mobile Service Centre that services residents of rural communities.

iGovTT is also working alongside Ministries on other larger scale ICT projects and we are currently spearheading the implementation of a next generation government wide area communications network that will improve upon communications infrastructure current deployed across Government. This new infrastructure will also form the backbone for improved coordination and information flows across government Ministries and agencies for better public service delivery.

The work of the World Economic Forum is critical to the continued development of emerging economies such as ours for many reasons. However, speaking specifically on its impact on Trinidad and Tobago and, in the context of this Report, **the information provides our nation with**

a valuable scorecard on what we've done well and the areas where we need to do even better.

In closing, allow me a moment to once again express our appreciation to the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business for inviting us to participate in today's launch. I can assure you that we at iGovTT will continue to support the widespread awareness of the Global Information Technology Report and the Global Competitiveness WEF reports as well as the Executive Opinion Surveys which feed into the Reports. We understand the importance of data collection in providing a basis for calculating our performance rankings and we will therefore do our part in encouraging other business groups to respond enthusiastically to the Surveys.

I eagerly anticipate the discussions to follow this morning and certainly hope that this level of dialogue does not end at this event. I thank you

all for your kind attention and do look forward to an opportunity to engage you once again in the near future.